AND STATE OF STATE OF

U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney
Western District of New York

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138 Delaware Avenue Buffalo, New York 14202

PRESS RELEASE

March 30, 2005

RE: UNITED STATES v. CATHERINE KEENAN

United States Attorney Michael A. Battle announced today that Catherine Keenan, age 44, of Buffalo, New York, pled guilty before Hon. Richard J. Arcara, United States District Court Chief Judge to a felony Information, charging her with one count of preparing and submitting false and fraudulent material to the Internal Revenue Service ("IRS"), in violation of Title 26, United States Code, Section 7206(2), carrying a maximum penalty of 3 years imprisonment, a fine of \$250,000.00, or both.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Trini E. Ross, who handled the case, stated that the defendant, who was in the tax preparation business, pled guilty to assisting a taxpayer in the preparation and presentation of the U.S. Individual Income Tax Return Form 1040 to the IRS, which return was false as to a material matter, namely that the tax return stated that the taxpayer had dependents who he claimed on the tax return when the defendant, who prepared the tax return, knew that the taxpayer had no dependants which he could claim.

The plea was the culmination of an investigation on the part of the Internal Revenue Service, Criminal Investigation Division, under the direction of Anne Marie Coons, Special Agent-in-Charge.

Sentencing is scheduled for July 7, 2005, at 12:30 p.m. in front of Hon. Richard J. Arcara, United States District Chief Judge.

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